

Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EUR-12 /078 W

----- 006160

R 110010Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8835

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMCONSUL BELIZE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GT, MX, BH

SUBJECT: MEXICO'S POLICY TOWARD BELIZE

REF: A) MEXICO 4889; B) GUATEMALA 3005

1. ACCORDING TO NEWS REPORTS RECEIVED HERE, PRES. ECHEVERRIA TOLD NEWSMEN JULY 9 IN GEORGETOWN THAT "MEXICO HAS NO TERRITORIAL ASPIRATIONS TOWARD BELIZE." HE ADDED THAT "WE HAVE STUDIED THE TREATIES SIGNED AT THE END OF THE LAST CENTURY IN MINUTE DETAIL, AND WE HAVE NOT DEDUCED-- AS SOME WOULD HAVE LIKED-- ANY BASIS FOR A POSSIBLE AGGRESSIVE ATTITUDE BY MEXICO WITH RESPECT TO BELIZE. "WHAT THIS MEANS," HE CONTINUED, "IS THAT(THE MATTER) OUGHT TO BE STRAIGHTENED OUT AMONG ENGLAND, GUATEMALA, AND BELIZE."

2. COMMENT: AS ILLUSTRATED REFTELS, THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION IN WAKE OF ECHEVERRIA'S LAST PUBLIC STATEMENT ON BELIZE, SINCE HE SEEMED TO IMPLY A CHANGE IN GOM POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THAT TERRITORY. LATEST ECHEVERRIA STATEMENT SEEMS TO
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CONFIRM THAT CHANGE, I.E., THAT MEXICO HAS GIVEN UP

ITS LEGAL CLAIM TO THE NORTHERNMOST PORTION--OR
AT LEAST THAT IT HAS ABANDONED ANY THOUGHT OF
USING FORCE TO MAKE ITS CLAIM STICK. ON THE OTHER
HAND, AS MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED FROM A GUEST IN
PRO-BELIZEAN GEORGETOWN, ECHEVERRIA INDICATED LESS
SYMPATHY TO GUATEMALA'S CLAIM OVER THAT TERRITORY
THAN HE HAD ON THE PREVIOUS OCCASION (WHEN CUATEMALAN
PRESIDENT LAUGERUD WAS AT HIS SIDE).
JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO06161
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750239-0691
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750765/aaaacfuh.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MEXICO 4889, 75 GUATEMALA 3005
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2003 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEXICO'S POLICY TOWARD BELIZE
TAGS: PFOR, GT, MX, BH, (ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ, LUIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006